

ZULM!!!
SAUDI TORTURE
IN THE HOLY
CITY OF
MADINAH
MUNAWWARAH

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THE BRUTAL SAUDI ZAALIMEEN MUST TAKE NOTE OF THIS DIRE WARNING WHICH ALLAH TA'ALA IS DIRECTING SPECIFICALLY AGAINST THEM. THEY WILL SUFFER AND PERISH LIKE DISEASED SWINES RIGHT IN THIS WORLD. THE PUNISHMENT WHICH AWAITS THEM IN BARZAKH AND THE AAKHIRAH IS SOMETHING WHICH NO EYE HAS SEEN, NO EAR HAS HEARD NOR DID IT CROSS THE MIND OF ANYONE. ZULM NEVER GOES UNPUNISHED EVEN IN THIS WORLD. LET ALL THESE BRUTAL COWARDLY ZAALIMEEN OPEN THEIR EARS AND AWAIT THEIR PUNISHMENT.

The Mashaaikh say: *"Al-mulk yabqa ma-al kufr, la yabqa ma-az zulm."* (An empire/a country endures even with kufr; it will not endure with oppression.) The tyrannical regime of the Saudis should take note and understand that no power endures forever. Whilst a benevolent regime, be it a kuffaar entity, will endure with a long lifespan, an oppressive and cruel regime will be short-lived.

Relative to the lengthy duration of even centuries of former empires, the age of the current plastic and cardboard 'superpowers', such as the U.S.A. is insignificant. The demise of the Soviet 'superpower' came suddenly and swiftly after a mere couple of decades. And, Allah Ta'ala sealed its doom by miring it in the cauldron of Afghanistan. The U.S.A., after its short lifespan of a couple of decades is now heading for the same destruction and doom as the Soviet Union, and its graveyard will be the very same Afghanistan.

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The demise of powers is generally preceded by an insane reign of *zulm (oppression, cruelty and tyranny)*. The U.S.A. has taken this road. Saudi Arabia, for its existence is 100% reliant on the U.S.A. But, when the moment for the extinction of this brutal regime is divinely sounded, the Saudi regime will recede into the realm of extinction. One of the warnings stated in Writing on the Wall for the Saudi regime is its tyranny and cruelty – its oppression and injustice on defenceless Muslims. The cries and curses which spontaneously arise from the innermost recesses of the tens of thousands of oppressed prisoners subjected to horrendous brutality in jails and dungeons even in the Holy City of Madinah Munawwarah, are all arrows which do not miss their mark which is the Divine Arsh.

Allah Ta'ala has already sounded His Response on the mubaarak lips of Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam): *"By My Might! I shall most assuredly aid you, even if it takes some time."* The Saudi regime is nothing but a hollow puppet regime licking the boots of its American master. The very institutions of fisq, fujoor and kufr which the current Saudi regime is bringing into operation will be the U.S. instruments to bring down the Saudi royal family. It is indeed surprising that the Saudis remain blind to the sudden eruptions which have brought massive political upheavals and change of regimes in their wake. But zaalimeen are blind in their hearts, hence they are too stupid to heed the Writing on the Wall.

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EPISODES OF SAUDI ZULM

Some recent episodes of Saudi zulm are reproduced here verbatim. These are the statements of prisoners who have been detained without trial for long periods – for years – tortured to extract confessions, then released.

FORMER PRISONERS NAME SAUDI TORTURE OFFICIALS

Seven former prisoners, of various nationalities, jailed in Madinah, Saudi Arabia, over the last decade are in the process of sending formal complaints to the relevant UN body, including detailed witness statements of what happened to them in prison and naming a senior Saudi officer Yusuf al-Barakaty as personally involved in their torture. All were detained in a prison run by the *mabahith*, as they were seen as ‘national security threats.’ Most of them made false confessions after torture.

The seven men, speaking in Arabic from several different countries by phone and by Skype, simultaneously, gave their accounts after months of long consultations between them, and several meetings with the people they had chosen to speak to. “I am so pleased this joint initiative has gone ahead – it has made me very proud...and if it has an effect I’ll be even more pleased,” said one this week. The formal documentation to be lodged with the UN is currently underway.

Their group determination to go public overrode their frequently expressed fears about the risks to themselves and their families from intelligence services if their identities were to become known. “The threat to my family and to myself would be very, very serious...these are very ruthless people with an extreme fear of adverse publicity.” However one said, “regardless of dangers, they have already taken five years of my life... I would like to expose what’s going on in Saudi Arabia at any cost.”

The men’s identities were crossed checked and verified by an independent lawyer and journalist who took their calls, and met two of the men for interviews both together and separately. Background checks were conducted over months.

Two of the former prisoners were close friends in prison, while the others overlapped acquaintanceships at that time. The two said that they had resolved in the very darkest time there that once they got out they would

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campaign to publicise what happened to them, on behalf of those still there. "It is our duty, when we left the prison the others begged us, really begged us, "don't forget us, don't forget us", one said.

Some of the men were in the same room together for two and a half years, becoming closer than family. "To leave a person behind is very hard." As they spoke there were echoes of every former Guantanamo prisoner's expression of responsibility for those left behind.

Another explained how he believed that the public naming of the key figure who each one had been tortured by, Mr al-Barakaty, would have a psychological impact on other, less senior, men who routinely carry out torture. "They will wonder who else may be named...it is a strong message to officers to think one million times before they lay their hands on any detainee."

Several of the men said they believed their speaking out would encourage other former prisoners to break their silence too. All of them spoke of having met in prison men "from every continent" – arrested in the massive fishing net hauled in by US and other Western intelligence agencies with the launch of the War on Terror a decade ago.

From the line of questioning by their interrogators two said they realised they were being asked not about themselves, but about an associate. Another said that he had been arrested for *Takfiri* or *Jihadi* ideology, which he did not hold, as his interrogators soon found out, although they did not release him for years. Others said they had never found out why they were arrested, nor why they were released. As one put it, "anyone can be arrested in Saudi, they don't need a reason." Another added that, as in his case, it could be "because someone from outside wants you arrested."

And one added, "it's of everyone's interest to allow [the torture] to continue... rather than torturing people in the West, why not just let it happen in another country, so you can't be blamed?"

These men were held for between five months and seven years and their torture took place over varying periods. Besides the physical torture described in the witness statements, one added that he had had the psychological torture of being taken to the airport and told he was being deported, but after some hours waiting was returned to prison.

The men explained that during their time in prison consular visits only ever happened for those men with European passports, and then usually they would be taken to Riyadh for the visit before being returned to prison in Madinah. Asked about prison visits from the International Committee of the Red Cross, one man responded, "regarding the Red Cross, there was no such thing in those prisons and anybody that mentioned 'human rights'

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or 'Red Cross' in a phone call to his family would be banned from calling again.”

Of the seven men, only three were charged and tried. They explained that the judges were appointed by the Ministry of Interior, there were no lawyers, no public access to the court, and no notice given of the hearing. “All of us raised with the judge that we were tortured, but he dismissed the issue and sentenced us on the confessions. In fact the judge said to me. ‘I am sentencing you because you confessed to these things, regardless of whether you did them or not. You’ve got to bear the punishment because you confessed.’ ”

The men appear to have been released as randomly as they were arrested.

Nearly all were deported either to their own countries, or in some cases to third countries where they described, and showed pictures of leading lives of extreme isolation and hardship, knowing no one. Some men described “drowning in debts so it is difficult to put food on the table for my family,” or they spoke sadly of lost businesses, lost study possibilities, prohibition on travel, and the very private loss of an engagement to be married. As one put it, “it is very, very difficult to re-engage with anything that resembles life.”

Some of the men were university students when they were arrested, and one said that approximately 30 students from the University of Madinah were held in the same prison when he was there, all without charge or trial, many on the mere suspicion of associating with a suspect individual.

Several knew well the tragic outcome in the case of Ahmed Abu Ali, the young American/Palestinian who was arrested in 2003 while taking his exams in Madinah. Abu Ali was finally released to the US government after 20 months, when his family took a *habeas corpus* case against the Saudi government. But the false confession Abu Ali had made under torture in Saudi Arabia was then used by the US to try him on terrorist offences, and in court the two doctors who testified he had been tortured saw their evidence ignored and Abu Ali was forbidden to lift his shirt to show his scars. By a video link to the court Saudi officials testified that torture was not used in their country. Abu Ali is serving a life sentence in a US SuperMax prison.

During the interviews one man wanted to add to his written statement that he had seen women and children in the prison who had been arrested for protesting the arrest of individual family members. Another said that he hoped their speaking out could become a spur for lawyers to initiate a legal process based on their testimonies. “Not in any of our countries, but

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surely in Europe there are lawyers and courts who can take a case like this?"

In 2006 a similar case against named Saudi officials was heard in London on behalf of four British businessmen tortured in jail and forced into false confessions. Saudi Arabia is party to the Convention against Torture, which means that UK courts have jurisdiction over torture allegations that occur in its territory – but English judges decided that state immunity applied, and the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) agreed.

The legal team has since taken a different tactic, suing the torturers, the head of the prison and the minister in charge. The Saudis again claimed that state immunity should protect them from the charges, and the case is now pending before the ECHR. Tamsin Allen of Bindman's, lawyer for the British men said yesterday, "If the European Court allows this application, the way will be opened for torture victims to achieve redress in UK and other European domestic courts against those responsible for their torture. That is an important first step towards torture victims achieving the right to be compensated by foreign states for the damage caused by torture."

For the seven men taking their first step towards justice this week such an outcome would validate the risks they have taken to expose from first hand what Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have reported of judicial and prison deficiencies in Saudi Arabia over many years. "Hell" was the simple summing up of one of these former prisoners this week.

For further information on the Saudi Torture Project see link below:

Saudi Torture Project (<http://www.cageprisoners.com/our-work/focus-campaigns/item/5836-saudi-torture-project>)

Testimony of Abu Assad

Testimony of Abu Assad one of the former prisoners who was tortured whilst in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Background

In the name of God, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful. All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds, with no enemies except those who commit oppression, and peace on the one guided with good news, Muhammad ibn Abdillah, his family, his companions and the generations after them.

My name is Abu Assad. I loved the city I was born in where I completed my secondary education and memorised the Qur'an, praise be to God. It

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was at the end of the third year at secondary school that my father (may Allah have mercy on him) passed away when I was 17 years old.

I was forced to leave school to provide a living for my family due to being the oldest child. As my family is large and constituted a number of small children, the loss of my father left them orphaned. I began working in my father's workplace in trading but expanded my work in the country of the two holy sanctuaries near the habitation of the hujjaaj (those who perform Hajj) by buying and selling properties as well as other things.

Whoever saw me would know that I was practicing my religion but stayed away from ghulu (excessiveness) and tashaddad (strong opinions).

Detention

After I reached adolescence, around 20 years old, I was detained by the Saudi security section in 2005, without any issue. According to my memory, the group which arrested me were composed of a number of individuals. I remembered some names from the group which are:

- * Mishal al-Sahli – later the director of the security prison in Madinah al-Munawwarah (city of Madinah)
- * Yusuf al-Barakati
- * Ghazi Al-Hussainy al-'Awfi

I was imprisoned for seven years without being found guilty as I was a law abiding citizen and did not have any offence relating to work, residency, state crimes or anything related to terrorism.

I got to know the names of my interrogators:

The first, captain Ghazi al-Hussainy al-'Awfi al-Harby and the other, who is in the photo and superior is lieutenant Yusuf al-Barakati. They wanted me to admit to being a member of those who subscribe to jihadi or tafkiri (those who pronounce others unbelievers) thinking. I honestly didn't know at the time of the existence of this type of thought.

Torture

They started to torture me psychologically and physically – they left me handcuffed for more than two months in a small cell with no bed and I would sleep on the floor – they would forbid me from showering also and they would stand over me for more than an hour long. They would pay soldiers to wake me up whenever I tried to sleep and I was subjected to sleep deprivation until I was suffering from severe exhaustion and was completely discombobulated. I would say anything in order for me to rest and so they would allow me to sleep.

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They forbid my family from visiting me for more than three months. They were in need of me at that time as they did not have anyone but me and I had to stop working which caused serious loss and material damage.

They would take me to the interrogation building at any time they wanted night or day. It was this which would cause psychological trauma to the point where no one detained knows when they will be investigated or when they will return, they remain tense until they are in their cell. This building is known as a place of torture...there are chains hanging in the interrogation room and electric sticks that are used on the skin and even electric and plumbing tools...which I have no idea what they do with and how they use them for torture.

When I was taken to this building, those who I named above, placed electric wires over my skin, the same way you lay lights in houses. This skin technique was done in the first three months for varying lengths of time ranging from an hour to three hours – without mercy until blood would seep from my back and I would be screaming, seeking help, asking their humanity to stop from their disgusting activity...but unfortunately they do not have a soul.

They threatened that they would kill me more than once, and also threatened to imprison my sisters or exile them from the city. They threatened me with this because they knew that this was my weak point. They know that whoever does not hold Saudi citizenship and does not have dual nationality with another country then the Saudi authorities force them to migrate to any other country except ours. All this torture and these threats pressured me to agree that I subscribed to the jihadi ideology.

They tried to use different methods to increase the pressure I was under. Sometimes they would torture me and sometimes they would try to persuade me and say, *"Write that you believe in your takfiri ideology and that you followed this type of thought. If you do this we will release you from prison."*

Complicity of judicial authority

Months after my arrest the judge called the interrogators on my behalf. He explained that he could show them I was innocent and he would let me go, however, on condition that I work for them as a spy. My reply to them which I will never forget, *"I don't like this activity and I don't want to work with you because you treat people unjustly and also because this type of work is..."* They replied to me angrily: *"You will not leave prison unless it is through death"*. I put my trust in Allah and I was ready to taste the bitterness of my decision as I did not want to be the reason that might

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result in the hurt of others. When they saw my standpoint, they started mocking me that I will be a monument for the Muslims.

After a while the interrogators Yusuf and Ghazi came with a lot of degrading and unbelievable insults with no purpose other than to provoke me. I don't want to remember them because of how low these insults were.

Not only after all this did I spend a year and a half in this prison, they told me *"We give you glad tidings oh Abdullah, we received an order from Mohammed bin Nayef to release you and compensate you for the losses you incurred because of your time spent in this prison"*. I thanked Allah for this and I didn't know that their goal was to destroy me and deceive me. I was left waiting, yearning to be released, but after some time passed, I knew that they were lying and just intended to damage my well being. With regards to them, Allah is sufficient.

Before that wound healed, and not even two months pass since their last attempt, they thought of something else to do. They noticed during the interrogations that I have another weak spot which is my siblings as I was their guardian after my father passed away (Allah have mercy on him). In his will he said that I should look after my mother and my sisters, something the interrogators knew. They ordered the arrest of my brothers in order to exile them to a foreign country, where they do not speak the language of the place they've been thrown in.

They invented so many sophisticated ways to torture me which haven't even entered the mind of the devil and they repeatedly made false promises of my release. They destroyed my well being and they dispersed my family. After this, they moved me to a number of prisons around the Kingdom and they continued to impose restrictions upon my family. I was transferred...after I spent seven years in the prison without a fair trial.

When I saw the picture above, I knew who it was. I assure you that the person in this picture is the investigator Yusuf al-Barakaty.

Those people know that I have been oppressed. I do not have any suspicious links to groups and the actions of these two interrogators are heinous crimes. They destroyed my life and caused my siblings to disperse to foreign countries. I have spent a third of my life in prison even, when I pass 30. This is without any crime and I ask from all those who received certificates for human rights and lawyers and all those who want to help me, to help me regain my dignity and claim back every day I spent in prison, the losses incurred by it and to bring to justice these two interrogators and all those who were involved in my abuse until they taste the bitterness which they did to me.

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I ask Allah, the Highest, the Lord of the holy throne to rescue those in the other prisons in the county of the two sanctuaries, It is possible for Allah to do anything and in Him we put our trust. I ask everyone who is reading this to make dua'a (pray) for me. My greetings to all of you.

Saudi Torture Project: Testimony of Abu Layth

Testimony of Abu Layth one of the former prisoners who was tortured whilst in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Background

My name is Abu Layth. I was captured by the Saudi [authorities] in Madinah where I used to study in 2006. Among the people who came to capture me were government interrogators, one of them is the individual in the picture provided, his name is Yusuf al-Barakaty.

Detention

I was detained arbitrarily without being shown any form of evidence or official document. They were armed and wearing army/police uniform.

During the interrogation I was tortured and degraded and I had to admit to something I didn't do. I was interrogated by a lot of the officials and I will mention their names which are:

1. Bandar al-Hazamy who was known as Abu Khaled
2. Yusuf al-Barakaty who was known as Abu Mansoor
3. Bakr Ghareeb al-'Awfi known as Abu Yasir
4. Ghazi al-Husayn al-'Awfi
5. Fahed al-Ahmady

The names of these officials were not known in fact they were hidden in order to protect their identity but I found out their names through non-official sources. Yusuf [al-Barakaty] was known for his extreme ways of torturing detainees and degrading them and he partook in torturing me during the interrogation.

Torture

The interrogation went on until the night as well as the day while my hands were handcuffed and legs were tied in different rooms in the building, 4th floor, in the interrogation building and they used different instruments to torture me with:

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1. A thick electric cord that looks like the wires used in computers. It was grey.....and it was 60cm long. I was hit a number of times on my whole body.
2. A straight wooden stick which was around 35cm long and its thickness was around 2-2.5cm and he would raise it 3-4cm high before hitting me on my fingertips
3. The traditional Saudi rope used for clothing....the official used that as a whip and hit me with it a number of times.

I was forbidden to sleep the whole night until the morning and they threatened me with capturing my brothers and father. The officials used different ways to force me to confess...

One of the ways was through mental torture as well as physical torture as I mentioned. I was threatened with an electric cord and would not release me which would be followed by handing me to someone who will take my fingernails off as well as other things. Yusuf was involved with the other officials in torturing me, even though he was not my official interrogator, he was hurting me for 'leisure' purposes. He threatened me with punishment and ruined my dignity with his abusive language and among the things he said to me, was that if I did not 'admit' then he would do to me as the Americans did with the Muslims in Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq. Yusuf tortured me physically without using any particular instrument.

I certify that the person in the picture is Yusuf [al-Barakaty] without a doubt and he was involved in the crime of torturing me physically and mentally as well as many other officials.

It is hard for me to write this testimony and remember what happened to me in those dark days. I have only written this in order to plead to whoever is reading this testimony to seek out and hold those responsible to what happened or to report this to someone who can do that. This is a trusted document and I won't forgive whoever was able to help and didn't help.

Saudi Torture Project:

Testimony of Abu Muhammad

Testimony of Abu Muhammad one of the former prisoners who was tortured whilst in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Background

In the name of Allah the Most Beneficent the Most Merciful

My name is Abu Muhammad. I was born in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the city of Madinah where I lived. I was arrested by the secret service (Mabahith) of Madinah in 2010. The group that arrested me comprised of officers, and foot soldiers in plain clothing. I was not arrested in a legal fashion, I was neither informed I was to be arrested nor did anyone present their ID or a legal document ordering the arrest. This was similar to a kidnapping. I do not know the names of those who arrested me however I am able to recognise some of them if I see their images.

Torture

During the time I was held I was subjected to verbal, physical and severe psychological abuse. This was done so they may extract false confessions off me that have no basis in reality. After two years of arrest I was deported from Saudi Arabia where I was born and where my family reside. They did so without charging me with any offence or standing before a court nor was I allowed to appoint a lawyer to represent me and attend my hearings as their law states.

I have seen the provided image, I know who it is, his name is Yusuf al-Barakaty. I learnt his name from some of the prisoners that were with me in prison. This Yusuf al-Barakaty is an officer and an interrogator in the Saudi secret service (Mabahith). He is ranked as a first lieutenant. However a brother heard him speaking on his phone saying "*I am Captain Yusuf*", so perhaps he was elevated to the rank of Captain. This interrogator was responsible for my case and for forcibly extracting confessions from me. I came across him in the interrogation rooms, where he tortured me both physically and psychologically. I have documented here some of what I can remember of his conduct towards me:

- 1) He deprived me of sleep for approximately 3 consecutive days and nights. He would order the guards in his absence to not allow me to sleep, and if I am overwhelmed by sleep to be awoken violently.
- 2) He would compel me to remain standing for long periods of time reaching to over 10 consecutive hours. This was while my hands and feet were bound by chains and my eyes were blindfolded.

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- 3) He would slap me on my face to humiliate me. He used to slap me so hard that the markings would remain on my face for many hours.
- 4) He made heinous threats at me about beating me excessively and prolonging my stay in prison.
- 5) During one interrogation, approximately 5 individuals gathered around me. One of them dragged me by my feet – I was seated upon a chair – dropping me onto the ground. Thereafter some of them took hold of my hands and others my feet, the rest (approximately 3) began to strike me on my back and legs using thick electric cables, I was screaming from the severity of the pain. My screaming did not prompt them to stop, instead they continued till my blood was shed and my clothes were stained by it. I can still remember the complexion of some of them. None of them were dressed in military clothing. In fact some of them had sport clothes on while others wore plain clothing. Some were masked, I wish it had been out of shame from their abhorrent actions, rather it was out of fear of reprisals on their cowardly selves. Thereafter Yusuf Al-Barakaty entered – he being my interrogator – knowing what had occurred to me as no soldier is allowed to touch any person except with the permission of the interrogator, therefore it was he who ordered it. When he entered and saw me stained with my blood, he said nothing instead he continued interrogating me.
- 6) I wanted to pray so I requested of the soldier to ask the interrogator, who was not in the room, if the shackles on my feet could be removed and to be allowed to wash the blood off my clothing so that I could pray. The interrogator, Yusuf al-Barakaty, refused even for just washing the blood from my clothes. I remained in this state for a number of days unable to wash it off.
- 7) The interrogator would compel me to remain standing, if he was absent he appointed a soldier to not allow me to sit. I would remain standing for periods reaching up to 10 hours without anything to lean on, to the extent that my feet would no longer carry me. I remember once I was fasting and I was made to stand while both my hands and feet were bound. I became exhausted so I asked that I be brought some water so that I may nullify my fast due to the exhaustion that overwhelmed me. They refused which was obviously an order of the interrogator as the soldiers are unable to do anything except by his permission. The interrogator, Yusuf [al-Barakaty], came to me and threatened me with prolonging my imprisonment. He seated me on a chair and placed his knee on my thigh, then held onto my head and slapped me on my face repeatedly and powerfully. He then went to the neighbouring room where

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another person was. I heard him crying and screaming from the severity of the torture. I did not know what was being done to him however I heard him screaming out "I do not know". His voice was frightening and it tore my heart. It seemed his situation was worse than mine and his torture was harsher than mine. I would like to note that this was a form of psychological torture. Any person who hears an oppressed person crying and screaming due to torture will feel his spirit is being destroyed, especially when this person is near to you and you're unable to assist him.

The harshest days of torture were during the beginning of my imprisonment. I was put in solitary confinement for five months where I saw nobody during the day. They would take me for interrogation daily, the timing of which was unspecified. At times it would be in the morning and other times during the evening or night. The interrogation would last from a few hours up until to 10 hours and sometimes even longer.

At times they would take me for interrogation and compel me to remain standing with my hands raised, while I was shackled and blindfolded. I would be left in this state for many hours only to be returned to my cell without being interrogated.

Another person had interrogated me, his name was Major Ghazi al-Sa'idi, I learnt his name from some of the soldiers. He and Yusuf Al-Barakaty took part in my interrogation and torture.

While I was in the interrogation room one day, Ghazi al-Sa'idi came and had a thick electricity cable with him. He began to strike the person beside me then he entered upon me and began to beat me. He concentrated on the exposed parts of the feet and hands. He would demand that I confess to things I do not know about. Then he moved to the next person, we were approximately 3 persons or more. I did not see them however I heard their screams and shouts. Ghazi al-Sa'idi then came back to beat me again. During this severe torture Yusuf [al-Barakaty] came along accompanied with an officer, I do not know his name but I am able to recognise him from an image of his. The three of these men ordered me to remain standing with my hands raised while they moved over to the person beside me. The torture in that room was severe, as were the screams. My heart tore apart due to the screams of that brother, I was invoking Allah for him and that Allah does not return them to me. The barbaric torture continued with no mercy for approximately half an hour or more. Hearing his screams was more difficult upon me than killing me.

These were the most difficult days of my life. After it, the interrogations continued for a year. They would ask me concerning matters I am ignorant

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of in hope of extracting confessions of things I did not do. They placed me in solitary confinement for 5 months. I did not see anybody during that time nor was I allowed to contact my family. The living conditions were very harsh, all due to the orders of the interrogator.

During the period of my imprisonment which lasted for 2 years and a month, I was not put on trial nor did I face a court or even charged. I was deported to (X) in 2012. Although I am free now, my heart is in agony due to what I saw in Saudi Arabia. My conscience feels pain when I hear of human rights organisations who claim they wish to lift oppression from humanity but we saw nothing from them when we were most in need of them.

I hope in Allah and then in everyone who is able to assist me in retrieving my rights and compensation due to what I suffered from physical torture, humiliation, deprivation of my freedom and psychological pressures. Also to punish those who transgressed against us and committed heinous crimes against humanity.

Saudi Torture Project: Testimony of Abu Yasin

Testimony of Abu Yasin one of the former prisoners who was tortured whilst in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Background

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious and Most Merciful.

My name is Abu Yasin. I lived in Saudi Arabia in Madinah having valid official papers; I was arrested by Saudi Authorities in 2006.

Detention

People in four vehicles came to arrest me, they were all dressed unofficially, I didn't know they were from the security service.

During my arrest I asked to see their identities – according to the norms – they said 'later', nobody told me why I was arrested or showed me his identity, I remember seeing some of them later in the interrogations.

While they were transferring me to the interrogation center I asked one of the soldiers what they wanted from me, he said, "*We have some questions to ask you and you will return (home) after half an hour*", I didn't know that I will stay with them for months and that this was the beginning of my suffering and deprivation of freedom and rights.

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They threw me in a solitary cell, I was deprived of my simplest rights. They started interrogating me after leaving me there for 2 days, I was thinking of the reason of my arrest, I was not allowed to talk to prisoners in other cells.

When I asked them to allow me to call my family – who didn't know what happened to me – the soldiers said, *“You're not allowed to make calls unless the interrogator permits”*, and he never permitted that during all my imprisonment period.

Two days after being arrested without charge, I was taken to the interrogation block, blindfolded, my hands and feet were shackled. Five interrogators came in, I knew that from their voices, after some time they all left except one who removed the blindfolds and I saw him, he is the same person in the photo provided, I am not sure of his name because he didn't introduce himself to me. Later on I learned that the names of interrogators are hidden from the prisoners in order to protect them from attributing crimes to them so they won't be judged.

Since I and my fellow inmates – who were with me after 2 months of solitary confinement – didn't know his name, we used to call him 'the monkey' due to the similarity between the two. That so called monkey was my main interrogator, others interrogated me too, one of them was the one who searched my house during the arrest, and others who were probably four, I didn't know their names but I knew they were interrogators because other prisoners described them as such.

Torture

When I was shown the printed photo above I knew instantly and without thinking that this was my interrogator, and I bear witness that this person has tortured me a lot during interrogations.

Interrogations lasted more than 2 months, there was no particular time for it, sometimes at day sometimes at night, I was physically and psychologically tortured and here I mention some of what I have suffered:

- 1) The person in the photo slapped me with his hand so hard on many occasions.
- 2) The person in the photo used to kick me on my body so hard, I remember he came one day wearing a training suit and said, *“I put that one to make it easier for me to beat you”*, he normally wore the Saudi clothes (thawaab).
- 3) The person in the photo used to beat me with a thick gray electric wire that was less than 1 meter in length, that wire is well known and it is used to deliver electricity to houses, he used to beat me with that

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wire while my hands and feet were shackled and sometimes my hands were tied to a high place that I cannot move. He beat me on my back while my hands were tied behind my back and my feet were also tied, he lashed me with all his power, he beat me so hard. That severe beating and lashing left marks on my hands and they became swollen, those marks would last for a whole month, I asked for a doctor due to the severity of pain and swelling of my hands, but nobody answered.

- 4) The interrogator mentioned above once threw a pen at my face and it was about to hit my eye and pierce it.
- 5) That interrogator in the photo used to make terrible threats to me such as: I will never get out of prison and I shall remain under torture forever. He brought other interrogators while he beat me and they threatened me saying, *"you will stay in prison till your hair turns white...you won't see your family till you die"* and once one of the interrogators other than the one in the photo above threatened me that they will send me to Guantanamo Bay detention camp in Cuba. The interrogator in the photo above used to threaten me of using electric shocks and other things that I don't remember.
- 6) That interrogator in the photo used to order soldiers to bring me to the interrogation room late at night, and I remained in that room waiting on my nerves for the interrogator to come and torture me at any time, after long hours the soldier comes and takes me back to my cell, that was a way of psychological torture, the effects of that psychological torture lasted for a long time even after I was released, and till now I feel afraid and unsafe even if I am among my family.
- 7) The living conditions in the prison were so hard, I didn't have any clothes other than the ones I was wearing when I was arrested, I was not given any personal hygiene products for a month I couldn't wash except after a month of my arrest, I was not given a pillow to sleep on, I used to put my head on my shoes so I could sleep, whenever I wanted to go to the bathroom to ease myself the soldier came late and I was not let in except after a long time, such things were the orders of the interrogators, no soldier can override the orders of the interrogators. I was deprived from making calls although I had requested that many times during my imprisonment period.

I remained in the prison for five months, I was not put on trial, I was not able to hire a lawyer, I was innocent and they offended me by taking away my freedom and torturing me.

In the end I wish that whoever reads this testimony strives for taking oppression off the oppressed ones in the Saudi interrogation prisons,

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pleads for them and helps put that interrogator mentioned above and anyone who offended me and other prisoners on trial.

The Ummah should remember in their Dua the thousands of *Mazloomeen (the oppressed)* Brothers languishing in the torture dungeons of Saudi Arabia, America, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Israel and elsewhere. Such Duas always find their mark by Allah Azza Wa Jal. But He responds in ways He deems best. No one can fathom the Wisdom of Allah Ta'ala.

RASULULLAH (SALLALLAHU ALAYHI WASALLAM) SAID:

**“BEWARE OF THE CURSE OF THE MAZLOOM
(THE OPPRESSED ONE – THE TORTURED
ONE)!”**

**“.....THE CRY OF THE MAZLOOM IS LIFTED BY
ALLAH ABOVE THE CLOUDS. THE PORTALS
OF THE HEAVEN ARE OPENED FOR IT, AND
ALLAH
(TAKING AN OATH) SAYS:**

**‘BY MY GRANDEUR! I SHALL
MOST ASSUREDLY AID YOU
EVEN IF IT IS AFTER SOME
TIME.’”**